

Iraq sinks 'small naval target'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq reported fighting on the southern Gulf war front Friday and said its navy destroyed a "small naval target", its usual term for a cargo ship, in the Gulf. A high command communique said Iraqi heavy artillery pounded Iranian positions east of the southern Iraqi port of Basra, inflicting heavy losses and destroying an Iranian field headquarters, infantry positions and a number of vehicles. Seven Iranian troops were killed and several more wounded in the central sector of the battlefront, it said. It said the Iraqi navy attacked and destroyed the naval target at 1335 local time (0935 GMT), but gave no details of the vessel or its location. The communique added Iranian artillery Friday shelled Basra and the town of Mandali further north, damaging civilian property.

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Four new ambassadors named

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has named four new ambassadors to the Foreign Ministry, the Jordan Times learned Friday. According to the decision, Awwad Al-Khalidi is appointed as Jordan's ambassador to Greece, Mohammad Al-Fatih Al-Odwan as ambassador to Spain, Jamal Khayat as ambassador to India and Hisham Al-Shawwa as ambassador to Brazil.

Guinea, Cameroon not to renew ties with Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Guinea and Cameroon have reneged on a decision to renew relations with Israel, an Israeli newspaper reported Friday. The Labour party's daily Davar newspaper said both countries had agreed to allow Israel to establish unofficial diplomatic offices in their capitals. But it said an Islamic delegation to Guinea threatened that Arab financial assistance to the country would be curtailed if it established relations with Israel, and similar pressures were placed on Cameroon.

Berri condemns U.S. policy

BEIRUT (R) — Minister of State for South Lebanon Nabih Berri Thursday accused the U.S. of silence on Israeli practices in South Lebanon, the government's national news agency reported. "I expressed to the American Ambassador (Reginald Bartholomew) strong condemnation of his government's silence over these acts which flout Lebanon's sovereignty and all human principles," he quoted him as saying Thursday. "I asked for a frank reply from the American government on its attitude towards what has happened and what is happening and what steps it intends to confront this Judaisation of the south," Mr. Berri was quoted as saying.

Somalia reports Ethiopian attack

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Two Ethiopian MiG-23s attacked a Somali village early Thursday, but were driven off by the Somali air force, Radio Mogadishu said Friday. The radio, quoting the Somali Defence Ministry and monitored here, said the planes failed in their attack. There was no mention of casualties. Somali authorities said an Ethiopian attack Jan. 30 in the same area, about 96 kilometres northwest of Hargeisa on the Ethiopian frontier, claimed the lives of an unspecified number of schoolchildren.

Irish detective shot dead

DUBLIN (R) — An armed police detective escorting a cash delivery to a post office was shot dead Friday by a suspected Irish republican gang, police said. The gang got away with about 100,000 Irish pounds (\$106,000), a police spokesman said. Two detectives in an unmarked car were with a van taking pensions and welfare money to post offices when eight armed men opened fire in Drumree, 30 kilometres from Dublin, he said.

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King orders setting up of panel to commemorate Islamic leaders

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday ordered the formation of a special committee to maintain and preserve the tombs of the companions of the Prophet Mohammad and the first pioneers of Islam and to build mosques on their sites.

King Hussein said he would contribute his annual financial allocations towards the project and that he would direct and supervise the work of the committee himself.

Hussein attends Friday prayers at Aqaba mosque

AQABA (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday attended prayers at the Abu Dawoud Mosque here.

King Hussein and the worshippers listened to the Friday sermon, which was delivered by Sheikh Mohammad Abdul Wahab, who talked about the sublime meanings of King Hussein's message to Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, on Thursday ordering the formation of a special committee to maintain and restore the tombs of the companions of the Prophet Mohammad and martyrs who fell in defence of Islamic lands.

Sheikh Abdul Wahab paid tribute to the King's move and said the "royal decision which aims at preserving Islamic landmarks reminds us of the glories the martyrs had made to our nation."

Attending the prayer with King Hussein were a number of officials from Aqaba district. After the prayers, citizens gathered around King Hussein congratulating him on the anniversary of his accession to the throne which falls Saturday and wishing him success in leading Jordan to further progress and prosperity.

Therefore special attention should be paid to maintaining and restoring them and reconstructing mosques thereon, in order to commemorate the great leaders and pioneers after whose names these tombs have been named, the King said.

Such places should look in good appearance in order to attract people from the various parts of the world, thus changing them into civilised landmarks, he added.

Also in his message to Mr. Obaidat, King Hussein said he has decided to form a special contribution fund to finance the project and that he would be the first contributor to the fund.

"I am pleased to be the first contributor to the fund, and I have decided to donate my annual financial allocations for this programme," the King said.

King Hussein also added that the committee will be in charge of studying requirements and needs of each site separately in preparation for drawing up a suitable plan for building mosques and developing the sites of the tombs.

The committee will also organise a contest for drawing designs embodying Islamic architecture for planned monuments, King Hussein added.

'Biggest challenge is economy management,' minister says Anani, reaffirming commitment to pipeline, says security of oil project is guaranteed

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Jawad Anani has reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to build an oil pipeline between the Iraqi oilfields of Hudaitha and Aqaba, saying the security of the project is guaranteed.

Speaking at a lecture in Amman on Thursday evening, the minister said economic and political considerations make it imperative to build the pipeline. For Jordan, Dr. Anani said, the difference between a revenue of \$400 million to \$500 million annually from the pipeline and the alternative of

having to spend \$200 million to \$250 million to build a 24-inch pipeline to pump imported oil from Aqaba to the refinery at Zarqa. At the present, Jordan's petroleum needs are met by Saudi crude oil supplied through a pipeline by the Trans Arab Pipeline (TAP) company. When the

TAP line supply is stopped, as it is scheduled to next year, Jordan's oil bill would amount to \$700 million, the minister said. Hence the need for the pipeline.

The minister did not spell out the political consideration for the \$1 billion project, but said that Mr. Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's first deputy prime minister and the man in charge of economic projects, will be arriving in Jordan on Monday to continue discussions on the project, as well as on other forms of economic cooperation.

Dr. Anani was in London last month, at the head of a joint Jordanian-Iraqi team, to discuss with American, British and French financial institutions, Western loans to build the pipeline. The U.S. Export-Import (EXIM)



King Hussein in his childhood with his mother, Her Majesty Queen Zein (top left), as a student at Victoria College, Alexandria (top right), and on the throne while Fawzi Al Mulqi, the first prime minister he appointed, reads the government programme (J.T. filephotos)



Dr. Jawad Anani Bank is committed to guarantee about \$500 million to the project and the other half of the cost is

expected to be raised from British and French banks. After the London talks, however, Western press reports spoke of differences between Iraq and Jordan on the one hand and the likely financiers on the other over the security of the project. Whereas the Arab side wanted iron-clad guarantees that the pipeline will not be attacked by Israel, the Americans were not forthcoming on the issue, the reports suggested.

Asked about such a threat at his lecture, the minister told his questioner: There are guarantees. But I will not tell you about them," he did not elaborate.

On other issues of economy, Dr. Anani said the main challenge facing the Jordanian economy at the

(Continued on page 3)

Jordan marks 32nd anniversary of King's accession to throne

AMMAN — Thirty-two years ago on Saturday, a 17-year-old Prince on holiday became King Hussein of Jordan, and began a reign during which he has become the dean of Arab leaders.

The young Prince was 17 years old when he became King on Aug. 11, 1952, succeeding his father, King Talal, who abdicated of ill-health.

The young Prince had just finished the school year at Harrow, England, and was looking forward to spending the summer holidays at Lausanne, Switzerland with his mother, his brothers, Mohammad and Hassan, and his sister, Basma.

But on the morning of Aug. 12, while alone in his hotel suite as the rest of the family went shopping, a hotel messenger brought him a cable on a silver tray.

It was addressed to "His Majesty King Hussein."

He then realised that his school days were over once and for all. He had become King at the age of 17, just like his grandfather, King Abdullah, whom he saw assassinated on July 20, 1951.

The cable, handed to the young King at 9 a.m., was signed by

Prime Minister Tawfiq Abol Huda who announced the abdication of King Talal which automatically made Hussein King.

The cable said that the King's early return home was eagerly expected.

Meanwhile a regency council was formed to rule Jordan until the new King could inherit full constitutional powers on his 18th birthday on Nov. 14, 1953.

King Hussein left Lausanne a few days later, and was met at Amman airport by the country's leaders.

He reviewed an honour guard, and drove to the royal palace, with Jordanians shouting out loud "long live King Hussein."

It was a drive into 32 years of Arab history, in which Jordan took big leaps towards real progress, strength and stability, despite the many challenges that the Kingdom has faced.

To mark the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of King Hussein's accession to the throne celebrations are planned for Saturday.

(Continued on page 3)

Arafat says accord reached with Jordan on confederation ties

TUNIS (R) — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said Thursday that the PLO had reached agreement with Jordan on the principle of a confederation between the Kingdom and a future Palestinian state.

In an interview with Reuters in Tunis, the PLO chairman said: "Both of us have accepted the resolution of the Palestine National Council (PNC — the PLO parliament-in-exile) to have a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation."

Mr. Arafat said the proposed formula was still to be worked out, but he defined the confederation as "an equal relation between two peoples." Asked if it would have one head of state or two, he said details were still under discussion.

He held out no prospect of a quick change in the Middle East, and, referring to the divisions which have split the PLO over the past 16 months, said: "This is the

(Continued on page 3)

PLO team describes Syria mission as 'fruitful'

By Hamadeh Fara'aneh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation, led by Dr. Ahmad Sidki Al-Dajani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has concluded a working mission in Damascus where they met with Syrian Vice-President, Abdul Halim Khaddam and held a series of consultations and talks with Khaled Al-Fahouk, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), independent members of the PLO Executive Committee, and Yasser Abd Rabhah, representative of a Palestinian "democratic alliance" and Mohammad Khalifa, representative of a Palestinian "national alliance".

The PLO delegation's talks in Damascus centred on finding means to remove obstacles facing the holding of a "comprehensive Palestinian national dialogue" in preparation for holding the 17th session of the PNC.

The team's visit to Damascus comes in implementation of the PLO's decision to make contacts with all Palestinian parties, in accordance with a decision adopted at the meeting of the Executive Committee, which was held in Tunis last week.

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Dajani described the talks as fruitful and expressed his satisfaction at the results which, he said, came up with specific ideas for solving the problems facing the proposed dialogue.

Dr. Dajani also said that all parties concerned "are interested in achieving Palestinian national unity within the framework of the PLO, despite all statements to the contrary."

Meanwhile, the joint leadership of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) held a meeting in Damascus Thursday, and discussed results of the joint leadership's meeting with Mr. Khaddam. The joint leadership has called on the Syrian government to attend the planned Palestinian dialogue as an observer.

The joint leadership also discussed Arab and international mediation efforts to overcome the obstacles facing the restoration of the Palestinian-Syrian relations.

In a meeting between the head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Ministry, Vladimir Pol'yakov, and the "democratic alliance" leadership, the Soviet official said his visit to Damascus was aimed, among other things, at strengthening Syrian-Palestinian relations on a sound basis, in compliance with an earlier call by the Soviet leadership.

Amal office blast kills 1

BEIRUT (R) — An explosion at an office of the Shi'ite Muslim militia Amal in a crowded southern suburb of Beirut Friday killed nine persons and wounded four, police said.

The blast knocked a hole in the outside wall of a first storey flat in a building which Amal said housed a security office. Police said all the casualties were in the building.

An Amal statement said the blast was an exploding gas cylinder. Security sources said smaller explosions were heard shortly afterwards, indicating an anti-

unit was stored there. Amal said no bomb had been set off, but an anonymous telephone caller said the "Druze Independence Revolutionaries," a previously unknown group, caused the blast.

The explosion was the fifth in mainly Muslim west Beirut since Thursday morning, when Beirut Radio said three people were killed and about 25 wounded by a bomb in a rubbish bin.

Three other bombs, in streets in Beirut's commercial centre and in the suburbs, caused no casualties.

Egypt says Iran, Libya may be behind Suez and Red Sea mines

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak said Friday Iran and Libya may be responsible for mine-laying in the Red Sea and Suez Gulf and added that Egypt will deny Suez Canal transit to ships from any country proven to have committed the act.

Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala said that Egypt also reserved the right to "retaliate in any other way that we think is proper" against the culprits once proof is established.

Mr. Mubarak, Field Marshal Abu Ghazala and Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali spoke to reporters at Cairo airport on the president's return from a four-day visit to Yugoslavia.

"I think they may be both, though the Iranians have said they are not responsible," Mr. Mubarak

said in reply to questions about a frontpage article in the state-owned Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram accusing Iran and Libya of the mine-laying.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said Egypt was "70 per cent sure" Iran and Libya were to blame for the spate of explosions that have damaged at least 13 ships in the past month in the Red Sea and Suez region.

The defence minister and Mr. Ali cited only circumstantial evidence against Iran and Libya, saying Egypt lacked solid proof.

Mr. Mubarak said Egypt would invoke article 11 of the 1888 Constantinople Convention, allowing it to stop any ship suspected of carrying explosives sailing through its waters.

The Gulf of Suez and Egyptian

territorial waters were now free of mines and safe for navigation, he said.

Mr. Ali said a recent Tehran Radio commentary praising the mine-laying indicated possible Iranian involvement. Tehran has denied any part in the mine-laying.

Asked what motives any country would have for mining the Red Sea, Mr. Ali added: "Some of them want to hamper oil exports in the Red Sea, as they did in the Gulf."

U.S. minesweeping helicopters and French and British naval anti-mine ships were Friday headed for the Red Sea to join Egyptian units currently scouring the waters, a TSee page 21.

Minesweepers to face unknown hazards in Red Sea, page 2

Iraqis hit Kharg platform

BAHRAIN (R) — Iran said one of its oil platforms in the centre of the Gulf was hit Thursday in an Iraqi air attack as Baghdad promised to continue its blockade of Tehran's Kharg Island oil export terminal.

A military spokesman in Baghdad said Iraqi planes had successfully hit a "very large naval target" — Iraq's usual terminology for a tanker — in an early morning raid near Kharg Island and in the northern Gulf Thursday.

Iran later said there were no reports of ships being hit in the area but one of its platforms in an offshore oil field some 55 miles southwest of Kharg had been damaged in an Iraqi attack.

In Baghdad, the Al-Jumhuriya newspaper said Thursday the blockade of Kharg was not a temporary tactic, but would continue until the end of the war — now approaching its fifth year.

The blockade "will continue as long as the war continues. It will escalate as the war escalates," the newspaper warned.

"Iraq and only Iraq will decide where, when and how to strike," it added.

The attack on the oil platform followed by two days an Iraqi air-borne missile strike which caused damage to the Liberian supertanker Friendship L, hit south of Kharg Island after landing Iranian oil there.

The attack on Tuesday, the 20th independently confirmed strike against merchant ships in the Gulf since mid-April, broke a month-long lull in the shipping war.

هذه احدى الصور

Pilgrims sail from Suez as minesweepers head for Red Sea

SUEZ, Egypt, (R) — The year's first boatload of Egyptian pilgrims sailed from Suez Thursday, running a gauntlet of mines menacing ships in the Red Sea as they headed for the annual Hajj (pilgrimage) to Muslim shrines in Saudi Arabia.

U.S. minesweeping helicopters meanwhile were on their way to Egypt.

The four U.S. Navy Sea Stallion helicopters will be shipped through the Mediterranean aboard carrier vessels and could join Egyptian units now searching for mines in a week to 10 days, military sources in Washington said.

France and Britain have also agreed to join in operation and the foreign office in London said Thursday that a number of "mine counter-measure vessels" in the Mediterranean were on their way to Suez and should arrive in about a week.

In the North Yemeni capital

Sanaa, informed sources said two Soviet-built Yemeni minesweepers had been scouring the southern part of the Red Sea for the past week.

The Egyptian government-owned vessel Syria meanwhile sailed from Suez for Jeddah carrying some 600 pilgrims, many of them elderly men and women. Most of the passengers questioned by Reuters said they had not heard about the explosions.

The ship's Captain, Kamal Bhadawi Khalifa, said he had seen four Egyptian minesweepers operating around the Gulf of Suez and was confident the waterway was safe, but would still keep a close

watch for possible mines. "My plan for this trip is to keep a very lookout and avoid any floating objects any try to follow the trail of other ships," he said.

He said he had briefed his officers and given instructions on how to avoid panic in case the ship hits a mine.

Some 30,000 Egyptians are expected to leave for Jeddah until Aug. 25, Port Security Authority Head Col. Adel Anwar said.

In Jeddah, Port Manager, Mohammad Said Mawalli, was quoted by the official Saudi Press Agency as saying 1,400 Pakistani pilgrims had already arrived there and some 5,000 more were expected over the next week.

No ships have been sunk so far in the blasts which military experts believe have been caused by acoustic mines.

Diplomatic and shipping sou-

rces in the Gulf have described the minings, for which the "Islamic Jihad (holy war) Organisation" has claimed responsibility, as a spillover from the four-year-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

They said the minings were probably Iranian retaliation for Iraqi attacks on ships serving Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal and other ports in the northern Gulf. But Iranian officials including Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini have strongly denied any involvement.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, on a visit to Yugoslavia, said Thursday that Egypt had the right under international law to search any ship threatening the Suez Canal's security.

He added it could also prevent any suspect vessel entering the waterway, Egypt's official Middle East News Agency reported.



Some of the 129 passenger released from the hijacked Iran Air jetliner, rest on the tarmac of Rome's Ciampino Military Airport Wednesday (AP wirephoto)

Hijacked Airbus returns to Iran

ROME (R) — Anti-Khomeini students urged the passengers on a hijacked Iranian airliner to stay in Italy Thursday, but the plane flew back to Tehran Thursday night with most of them still aboard.

Police said 10 of the 294 passengers remained in Rome — two hijackers facing trial, four people who stayed for medical reasons and four for reasons which were not known.

The Airbus was commandeered in Iran on Tuesday and its two hijackers, who had used dummy bombs, surrendered to Italian police after it reached Rome Wednesday, freeing the other passengers and 11 crew members unharmed.

A Rome Deputy Public Prosecutor, Antonino Vinci, ruled Thursday that the hijackers, Mohsen Rahgozar, 17, and Hossein Eftekhari, 18, would stand trial next Monday, bypassing Italy's often lengthy pre-trial procedures.

The plane left Thursday night after confused scenes at the airport as Iranian students opposed to the rule of Ayatollah Khomeini and Italian sympathisers tried to establish whether some passengers wanted to stay in Italy.

About a dozen anti-Khomeini Iranians studying in Italy tried to persuade the passengers not to leave. One climbed up outside a window of the departure lounge and shouted: "If you want to stay in Italy, don't be afraid. We will help you get political asylum."

Mario Capanna, leader of Italy's leftist Proletarian Democracy Party, and Rocco Ventre, a lawyer for the Iranian students, told reporters at the airport they believed some passengers wanted to stay, but were afraid to say so.

But Mr. Capanna and Mr. Ventre failed in efforts to have the Italian authorities ask the passengers one by one whether they wanted

to go back to Iran. The passengers who stayed for medical reasons were a girl aged four who was operated on here Thursday for a heart malformation, her parents, and an unrelated man who was taken to hospital with a heart complaint.

Police said the plane left because it was not equipped to fly over the sea, and life-jackets and other equipment had to be brought from Rome's main civil airport.

The four-year-old Iranian girl who underwent heart surgery was improving, doctors said. Nafiseh Farham parents, who said hospitals in Iran were not equipped to perform such surgery, placed a photo of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini on her bed, at Rome's Bambino Gesù (Baby Jesus) Children's Hospital.

An Italian radio commentator called the surgery "the good that sometimes results from evil."

British-Saudi plane deal condemned

BONN (R) — West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) have condemned the possible sale by Britain of Tornado combat aircraft to Saudi Arabia and called on the Bonn government to do all it could to stop any such deal.

The Tornado, NATO's newest multi-role warplane, is built jointly by Britain, Italy and West Germany. It is in service with the West German Luftwaffe and naval air arm, the British Royal Air Force and the Italian Air Force.

Deputy SPD Parliamentary Speaker Annemarie Renger was quoted by the newspaper Bild as saying that selling the Tornado to the Saudis would alter the strategic balance in the Middle East. "We regret that we, as partners

in the Tornado project, have no veto right. The government must use all its influence with London to stop the British plan," Ms. Renger was quoted as saying in an interview published Friday.

"The threat is enlarged by the fact that it can reach Israeli territory," Ms. Renger added. "Last month, the Bonn government said it was aware Saudi Arabia had asked Britain to supply the plane. A spokesman for Fiat Aviazione SPA said in Rome the manufacturing consortium had agreed to supply 40, and Fiat would provide engine components.

The leading conservative daily newspaper Die Welt said in a front-page story Thursday that British plans to sell the Tornado to

Saudi Arabia were well advanced. It said a Saudi team had already tested the aircraft at RAF station in Honington and delivery was possible early next year since London planned to sell Tornado "from RAF stocks."

RAF needs would later be made up by the German, British and Italian Panavia Consortium which makes the plane, Die Welt said. The British Defence Ministry Thursday confirmed that a Tornado promotion campaign was going on in several Middle East countries including Saudi Arabia and Oman.

But it denied any contracts had been signed. Aerospace industry sources said negotiations were "looking reasonably good" though no accord was imminent.

South Yemen pledges support for Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — South Yemen's Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali Thursday pledged his support for Kuwait in its efforts to promote Arab solidarity and the Palestinian cause.

"I confidently predict our joint efforts on the Arab and international levels will yield positive

results in the services of our pan-Arab causes, topped by the Palestinian issue," the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) quoted him as saying.

Aden backed any efforts to strengthen Palestinian unity and was prepared to help in arrangements for any future talks needed to rec-

onile the different Palestinian factions, he said at the end of a three day official visit.

Mr. Dali said he had discussed mainly bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Gulf in talks with Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Minehunters to face unknown hazards

LONDON (R) — Western minehunters faced unknown hazards Thursday as they prepared to help Egypt clear mines which have damaged a dozen ships in the Gulf of Suez and Red Sea since mid-July.

Four 30-year-old British mine-tracking vessels are on their way to the Gulf of Suez area, where four U.S. minesweeping helicopters will join them. American experts are already in Egypt. France has three warships in the area and has also offered help.

Egypt sought Western assistance in clearing mines after at least 12 commercial vessels were damaged in mystery explosions in the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez. No mines have been recovered so far, making it impossible to prove their origin.

An Egyptian minister has linked the mines to the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq, and a shadowy revolutionary group called Islamic Jihad (Holy War) says it has planted 190 mines in the Gulf of Suez and the Bab Al Mandeb Strait at the Red Sea's southern mouth.

Iran has indicated its approval of the minings, but has denied involvement. Until the British minehunters get to the area next week for their first live action since the 1982 Falklands War, they do not know what they are up against, British naval experts say.

The mines may be crude devices easily spotted by airborne radar or sonar scanners on the min-

ehunters. They could be cut loose from their moorings and detonated with guns. More probably, they are "influence mines" triggered by magnetism, sound or pressure, or a combination of all three.

Sophisticated mines can be programmed to leave the first vessel which passes them unscathed and the blast the next in line — just one of the unknowns the minehunters face.

"Until one is recovered, no-one will really know," Admiral Sir James Eberle, a mine warfare specialist who now directs Britain's Royal Institute of International Affairs, said.

Adm. Eberle and Robert Van Tol, a naval expert at the Royal United Services Institute here, told Reuters the operation should not be dangerous provided it is handled carefully.

"They are probably expecting the unexpected," Mr. Van Tol said. "It is an operation which requires patience and great accuracy, and the navigator is very important... It's time-consuming and you have to be very thorough."

"It is a dangerous operation, but if it is done with due prudence and thoroughness, you should be able to clear them without any losses." Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala said he believes the explosions were caused by acoustic mines or similar devices. Mr. Van Tol said mines typ-

Saudi prince invited to China

NEW YORK (R) — Prince Talal of Saudi Arabia, whose country has no diplomatic relations with Peking, was Thursday invited to visit China in his capacity as special envoy of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The prince, who is a brother of King Fahd, announced the invitation at a press conference held with China's U.N. Ambassador Ling Ying at the Chinese U.N. mission.

They sidestepped questions about the possible diplomatic implications of the visit, while hinting at a warming of relations between their two countries. Saudi Arabia at present has diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

The prince, in answer to a question, said there was no diplomatic significance to his trip, expected in the next two or three months. But he quickly added that Saudi Arabia considered "China of the one billion people" a friendly country and anything further could be discussed.

"And of course we'll leave it to the decision-makers either in Peking or Riyadh," he said. The prince, who has served as a special UNICEF envoy since 1980, also noted that "the relations between the United States and China started by a team of ping-pong."

This was a reference to an invitation to an American table tennis squad to visit China in 1971, marking a break in years of hostility between Peking and Washington. Mr. Ling told reporters: "On the Chinese side, certainly, we would like to normalise or establish friendly relations with any country on principles of peaceful co-existence. Certainly that includes Saudi Arabia."

Turkey, UAE sign agreement

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Thursday signed two agreements covering culture and economic and technical cooperation.

The agreements were signed by Turkish Foreign Minister Yalvar Halefoglu and UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuami.

The signing followed talks between Turkish President Kenan Evren and visiting UAE President Sheikh Zaid Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan in Ankara Thursday.

Mr. Kyprianou Wednesday met leaders of the main Greek Cypriot political parties to explain points presented to Foreign Ministry Director-General Andreas Mavromatis in Vienna.

Turkish-Cypriot representative Necati Ertekin has also been briefing Turkish Cypriot Leader Rauf Denktaş and other members of his administration.

Officials on both sides are maintaining strict secrecy on the talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar and their respective attitudes to the U.N. initiative.

Cyprus has been divided since Turkish troops invaded in 1974 in the wake of a Greek-backed coup attempt.

Cypriots discuss new U.N. initiative

NICOSIA (R) — Intensive discussions are under way on both sides of the Green Line dividing Cyprus in the wake of a new United Nations initiative aimed at reviving direct talks between the island's two communities.

President Spyros Kyprianou Thursday briefed his council of ministers on talks in Vienna earlier this week between U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de

Cuellar and representatives of the two sides, officials said.

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22:05	25:05	News Summary
22:10	25:10	News Summary
22:15	25:15	News Summary
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22:30	25:30	News Summary
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22:40	25:40	News Summary
22:45	25:45	News Summary
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23:00	26:00	News Summary
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23:35	26:35	News Summary
23:40	26:40	News Summary
23:45	26:45	News Summary
23:50	26:50	News Summary
23:55	26:55	News Summary
24:00	27:00	News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES	SERVICE CLUBS
Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 6610267	Lions Amman Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
American Centre, 44371	Lions Philadelphia Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
American Centre Library, 41520	Philippine Rotary Club, Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
British Council, 36147-8	Rotary Club, Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
French Cultural Centre, 37090	Royal Automobile Club, Jabbal Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 151361.
Goethe Institute, 41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre, 42403	
Spanish Cultural Centre, 24044	
Haya Arts Centre, 66518	
Hussien Youth City, 66718	
Y.W.C.A., 41793	
Y.W.M.C.A., 664251	
Amman Municipal Library, 36111	
University of Jordan Library, 343555	
MUSEUMS	CHURCHES
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Amman, tel. 24590.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qafra (Chalced Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Luvabeh, 37440.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabbal Luvabeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Hussein, 661757.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum, 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabbal Amman, 41559.
	Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.
	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 775261.
	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 771751.
	Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmisan, 663249.
PRAYER TIMES	
03:26	Fajr
04:57	Sunrise
11:42	Dhuhr
15:21	Asr
18:24	Maghreb
19:54	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Information is supplied by Airia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:30	Cairo (MS)
09:15	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30	Aqaba (RJ)
09:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:50	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:55	Kuwait (RJ)
10:00	Riyadh (RJ)
10:05	Jeddah (RJ)
10:10	Dhahran (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (RJ)
10:20	Cairo (RJ)
10:25	Singapore (RJ)
10:30	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GFI)

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

--- Konkara Doris
--- Texas
--- Mediast
--- Flyke
--- Sofie C
--- Sanku Hawk
--- Gratiska
--- Concord Doris
--- Toyota Maru
--- Sanku Hawk
--- Lady Nina
--- KZ Michalos

Amir Kawan and Sons Company, Tel. 22324 (six lines) at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

08:30	Moscow (SU)
09:15	Larnaca (CY)
09:30	Kuwait (KU)
09:45	Paris, Damascus (AF)
09:50	New York, Vienna (RI)
09:55	Bahgrade, Istanbul (RI)
10:00	Cairo (RJ)
10:05	Rome, Damascus (AZ)
10:10	Tripoli (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (MEA)
10:20	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
10:25	Cairo (MS)
10:30	Cairo (MS)
10:35	Baghdad (RI)

Local sellibury rates in Jils	
Belgian franc	65.81 65.2
Dutch guilder	117.9 118.5
Egyptian guinea	321.1 325
French franc	43.3 43.6
Irish dollar	590 394
Indian lire (for 100)	14.4 21.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	158.7 159.7
Kuwaiti dinar	129.3 1299.3
Lebanese lira	63.21 64
Omani rial	1097.1 1106.6
Qatari rial	104.9 105.4
Saudi rial	109.6 110.8
Swedish crown	46 46.6
Swiss franc	157.8 158.7
Syrian lire	47.51 48.4
UAE dirham	105.1 105.5
U.K. sterling pound	306.5 309.5
U.S. dollar	385.5 387.5
W. German mark	132.9 133.6

DEPARTURES

08:30	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
09:15	Cairo (RJ)
09:30	Beirut (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (MS)
09:50	Aqaba (RJ)
09:55	Beirut (MEA)
10:00	Athens (OA)
10:05	Tripoli (RJ)
10:10	Geneva, Madrid (RI)
10:15	Paris, London (RI)
10:20	Frankfurt, Brussels (RI)
10:25	New York, Vienna (RI)
10:30	Rome (RI)
10:35	Moscow (SU)
10:40	Larnaca (CY)
10:45	Bahrain, Doha, Muscat (GF)
10:50	Cairo (MS)
10:55	Kuwait (KU)
11:00	Kuwait (RJ)
11:05	Jeddah (RJ)
11:10	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:15	Cairo (MS)
11:20	Baghdad (RI)
11:25	Cairo (MS)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.	
Amman	18/30
Aqaba	23/38
Beirut	17/26
Jordan Valley	21/37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 17 per cent.

Yusef announces public security appointments

AMMAN (J.T.) — Public Security Department Director Major General Diab Yusef has decided to make the following transfers among high-ranking public security officers: Colonel Noriddin Kheir has been appointed director of protective security; Colonel Mohammad Najib Ma'abra has been transferred from the police court to the post of director of the Police Officers' Training Institute; Colonel Ibrahim Abu Al Shukur has been transferred from the Bridges Administration to the post of head of police court; Lieutenant Colonel Abdul Aziz Al Hababbi has been appointed assistant director of Irbid police; Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Al Sarayreh has been transferred from the police training institute to the post of commander of the police sciences college (Mu'ta); Lieutenant Colonel Azzam Haddadine from Ramtha borders to the post of deputy director of Karak police; Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Abu Karaki from Karak police department to Ramtha borders; Lieutenant Colonel Mahmud Al Mashni from the Vehicles Licensing Authority to the post of director of bridges security; Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad Abdul Haliz from Aqaba to the suburbs

police; Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad Al Dmour from the post of deputy director at the Traffic Department to the post of deputy rehabilitation centre director; Lieutenant Colonel Isam Al Helow from the rehabilitation centre to the post of deputy director of Aqaba police; Lieutenant Colonel Abdullah Al Gharaibeh from Irbid licensing department to the post of deputy director of the Vehicles Licensing Authority; Major Abdullah Melkawi from the Madaba police department to Na'our prison; Major Bashir Al Majali from Amman police department to Ma'an; Major Zaid Al Hmoud from Amman police department to the Vehicle Licensing Authority; Major Mohammad Baha'ddin Al Rifa'i from Na'our prison to Karak police department; Major Mohammad Al Ghazzawi from Salt police department to Aqaba police department; Major Ziyad Al Nejdawi from the police sciences college (Mu'ta) to the post of director of officers personnel administration; Major Salah Al Basel from officers personnel administration to the Vehicle Licensing Authority and Major Ali Arabiyyat at has been transferred to the rehabilitation centre.



His Majesty King Hussein meets a member of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division during a tour Thursday during which King Hussein watched a number of military exercises (Petra photo)

Hussein inspects Fourth Royal Division

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday resumed his inspection tours of the formations and units of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division.

Upon arrival King Hussein was received by the division's commander and a number of the divisions leaders and unit commanders who briefed him on the various tasks and activities entrusted to them.

His Majesty was also briefed on the night programmes and watched a number of exercises performed by the division's formations as part of their various daily programmes.

System to start in coming academic year

Students to sit admission exam for secondary stage

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has decided to hold an exam for admission to the secondary stage as of the scholastic year 1984/1985, according to an article in the Al Dustour Arabic daily Friday.

Under the new amendment to the admissions system in the secondary stage, the Minister of Education has the right to choose 60 per cent of the male students who pass the admission exam and 70 per cent of the females to continue their studies at the secondary level, according to the report.

Talking about the dimensions of this decision, Ministry of Education Secretary General Abdul Latif Arabiyyat said that it is an organisational process which was studied by specialised and responsible committees from the council of education and the ministry. They came up with recommendations which called for the necessity to improve the quality of education and direct it in a way which is in line with the present and future needs of the community, the report said. A certain

means must be used to achieve this goal and the holding of such an exam has been chosen as a means, Dr. Arabiyyat said.

Discussing the arrangements for holding this exam, Dr. Arabiyyat explained that when a student finishes the preparatory stage and if he wants to join the secondary stage he must sit a special exam for admission to this stage according to the needs of governors and districts.

He also pointed out that a decision taken by the cabinet specifying that 60 per cent of those who pass the admission exam should join the academic stream is currently being applied by the ministry.

The ministry is doing its utmost to make available academic and vocational education and to direct students to study careers that best



Abdul Latif Arabiyyat

suit their capabilities and the needs of the local market, Dr. Arabiyyat said.

He also added that this control and guidance process will have a big effect on developments as it will strike a balance between the quality and the quantity and of graduates in a way that meets the individual's and society's interests.

Folklore committee continues its efforts to promote Palestinian cultural heritage

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Previous attempts have been made by Palestinian individuals in the Occupied Arab Territories and in Jordan to preserve their culture by producing mother-of-pearl souvenirs, embroideries, carpets and other products.

The Palestinian Folklore Committee in Jordan headed by Mr. Mohammad Milhem, deported mayor of Halhul in the Occupied West Bank, was established in 1981 to organise and develop these attempts to preserve this culture. This committee serves two important purposes for the Palestinians, to protect and maintain the Palestinian heritage despite Israeli attempts to rob it, and to make a trade from tourists coming from abroad, according to Mr. Milhem.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Mr. Milhem said that there are nine Palestinian folklore groups in Jordan. "They are amateurs and started the groups on their own with their own musical equipment. What we (the committee) do is to organise their programmes, provide facilities, halls, transportation, other provisions and a symbolic amount of money to help the ones in need," said Mr. Milhem.

This committee has only started recently and it needs cooperation and effort from these individuals who are interested in maintaining their Palestinian culture, he said. "So far we have succeeded in making the first brick towards building the preservation of the Palestinian folklore," added Mr. Milhem.

It is known that the Israelis have not only taken away the Palestinian lands from their rightful owners, but they are also claiming that the Palestinian culture is theirs, Mr. Milhem said. For example

in Europe and the U.S., the Jewish people are now pretending that "Jewish foods" and that the Palestinian Dahka is also a Jewish dance, he continued.

World displays

According to Mr. Milhem, even if the Israelis try to claim the Palestinian culture, it still remains Palestinian. "There is always a place for Palestinian folklore in the world. Exhibitions have been staged in the U.S., Europe, Africa, and Asia where Palestinian handicrafts and paintings have been displayed. Palestinian performers of song and dance have also been shown as part of the Palestinian heritage. This all makes it difficult for the world to deny our existence," said Mr. Milhem.

Mr. Milhem added that the majority of Palestinians are still living their Palestinian heritage, especially the ones living in the Galilee and the West Bank and outside the occupied territories the Palestinian refugees are also promoting their culture.

Future plans

The Palestinian Folklore Committee in Jordan is now occupying a very small space in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Amman, but only temporarily. Mr. Milhem said that the committee is hoping to secure a reliable source of funding and that a plan for the future of the Palestinian Folklore Committee must be made. The plan should include establishing a permanent office and training individuals in order to channel the activities in achieving the goals, he said.

Jerash Festival

Last year, some of the Pal-

estinian groups performed at the Jerash Festival and this year there will be eight troupes performing Palestinian songs and dance, he said. The committee organises their transportation and other necessary needs. Some of these groups have even been asked to perform in Latin America, said Mr. Milhem.

In the past week there have been several varied exhibitions of Palestinian folklore and cultural heritage in different areas of the country. Mr. Milhem said that as a first step towards promoting Palestinian folklore the committee had done a good job.

He expressed hope that the Palestinian heritage would continue to endure and would also become better known throughout the world through greater cooperation and efforts.

Milhem cables Hussein

At the end of the celebrations Mr. Milhem sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein, in which he expressed the committee's thanks and appreciation to King Hussein and the Jordanian Government for their support of the committee, which he said reflected the deep and original meanings of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship.



Mohammad Milhem

Yarmouk plans archaeology, anthropology institute

IRBID (Petra) — The Yarmouk University Royal Committee has approved the setting up of an institute for archaeology and anthropology at the university.

The institute aims to qualify those working and interested in antiquities and anthropology and by awarding diplomas of higher studies as well as M.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

The institute will also conduct field and theoretical studies and research related to antiquities, anthropology, heritage and inscriptions.

The publishing of specialised scientific publications, reports and studies related to the institute's scope of work, holding scientific seminars and conferences as well as taking part in seminars and joint research projects at Arab and international levels are also among the aims of this institute.

Arab transport ministers invite Hikmat to meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat has received an invitation to take part in a meeting of Arab ministers of transport and communications scheduled to be held in Algeria on Oct. 6.

The four-day meetings will discuss the statute of the Arab ministers of transport and communications council prepared during a meeting of transport ministers and under secretaries held in Tunis last month.

Jordan marks anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

An "Industrial festival" is scheduled to be held at the Palace of Culture organised by the Arabic-language magazine Al Mistahlik (Consumer) in cooperation with the Housing Bank.

The festival, to be opened by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Anani, is entitled the "First Jordanian Industrial Festival."

Also on Saturday, His Highness Prince Faisal, the second son of King Hussein, will patronise a football match at the Sports City Stadium at 7 p.m. between Al Faisali Club of Jordan and the Egyptian Al Zamalk Club.

On the occasion of the anniversary, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, Ahmad Al Lawzi and Akef Al Fayed respectively, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Amman Mayor Abdul Ranuf Al Rawabdeh, General Intelligence Department Director Lt.-Gen. Tareq Aladdin, Civil Defence Director Maj.-Gen. Khaled Tarawneh, Public Security Director, Maj.-Gen. Diab Yusef, the presidents of Jordanian Trade unions, and Palestine Liberation Army Commander Colonel Na'im Al Khalib, sent cables to King Hussein congratulating him on the occasion and wishing him good health and success in leading Jordan.

Arafat says accord reached

(Continued from page 11)

year of regrouping. Next year is the year of harvesting.

Mr. Arafat and his aides have been discussing a wide range of subjects with Jordanian leaders in recent months. But they have preferred not to speak about the sensitive subject of a link between a proposed Palestinian state — in land occupied by Israel in 1967 — and the Kingdom.

'Security of pipeline is guaranteed'

(Continued from page 1)

present is its management. A turn of 120 degrees is needed in this respect from the practices of the last 10 years, he said.

The government's top priority is to preserve what we have achieved already, and this could be best done by reviving business and confidence in our economy, and by increasing exports," he said.

Dr. Anani called for a clear policy on exports and stressed the need for taking precautionary measures by the government to support exports.

The minister said the time has come for establishing a government body to ensure support for Jordan's exports, and he called for taking calculated risks to do this.

"There is no economic decision that is 100 per cent correct," Dr. Anani said. "But this is a time when we have to take clear-cut decisions. Jordan needs a very clear financial policy to steer the economy."

"Before, in the fifties, it was easy for the government to blame problems faced by the economy on the weather," the minister told his audience. "Not nowadays. We had a drought this year, but nobody is saying this is our problem."

Dr. Anani said one of Jordan's current problems is the lack of liquidity. "In 1975 liquidity grew by 40 per cent due to loans and external income," he said.

"But now it is less than the average of annual growth, although it should be double the figure."

Dr. Anani called on the business community to have more confidence in the economy. "This is a time to buy and to invest — not to sell."

"This is a buyer's market," he said.

The minister disclosed that negotiations are underway to export vegetables to the European Economic Community (EEC). But said that Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, would have to reduce its cargo fees before such a deal could go through.

Dr. Anani also discussed problems facing tourism in Jordan, and emphasised the need for a new mentality to market tourism.

He said that if Jordanians could be persuaded to spend their holidays here once every two years, instead of abroad, Jordan would go a long way in supporting its tourism industry at home. Currently Jordanians spend JD 80 million to JD 100 million abroad, the minister said, and if half of this amount could be spent here, that would be a big step forward.

In his lecture and the discussion that followed it, the minister also made the following points:

— Successive Jordanian governments did not usually have the time — while in office — to develop their own economic philosophies.

— Marketing in Jordan is the most backward sector in the country, and it needs to be changed.

— The government should install a new economic programme

NEWS IN BRIEF

Obeidat receives Qasem

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Thursday received in his office Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al 'Qasem.

Directors approve railway purchases

AMMAN (Petra) — The Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) board of directors held a meeting Thursday under the chairmanship of Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat. During the meeting they approved the corporation's tendering committee decisions to manufacture and supply 90 aluminium phosphate trucks, to purchase some machines and tools that will be used in building railway lines and to purchase some spare parts for the corporation's diesel locomotives.

Friends of liver patients elect committee

AMMAN (Petra) — The Friends of the Liver Patients Society's general assembly has elected a new administrative committee as follows: Randa Aladdin Touqan Chairman, Laurie Ihlasis Vice-Chairman, Hala Zureiqat Secretary, Mary Hanna Treasurer, Dr. Aladdin Touqan, Dr. Mustafa Al Shunag, Dr. Sami Khurma, Dr. Najwa Khouri Boulos, Dr. Amal Sharayha, Maha Kheir and Suheir Askour were elected as members.

JD 313,000 for rural public services

AMMAN (Petra) — The Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Humdullah Al Nabulsi has approved the awarding of tenders worth JD 313,000 to help six rural councils implement their public service projects.

Jordanian-Romanian trade centres to be discussed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian-Romanian joint committee will hold a meeting Sunday at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism to continue discussions regarding procedures for setting up two trade centres: a Jordanian trade centre in Bucharest and a Romanian trade centre in Amman.

The committee will also specify schedules of Jordanian and Romanian goods which will be exported to each of the two countries according to the allocated quotas amounting to JD 2 million for each centre. The setting up of the two trade centres is in implementation of a trade agreement signed recently between the two countries.

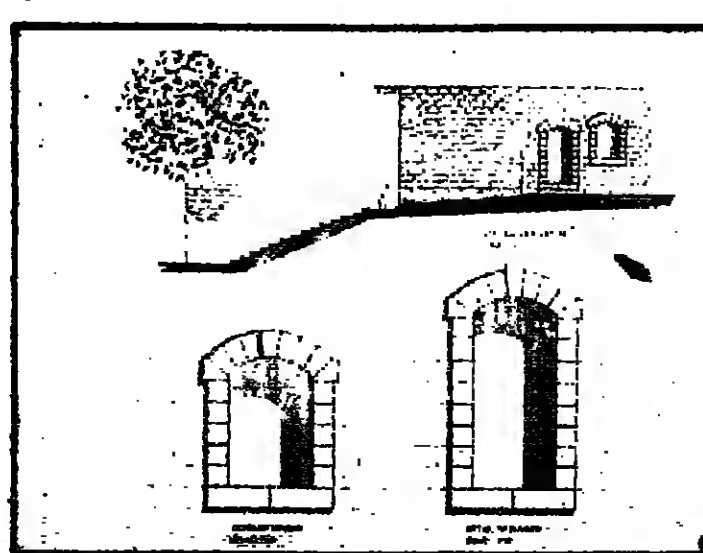
Meanwhile a Romanian trade delegation, headed by the director of foreign trade at the Romanian Ministry of Industry and Trade, arrived in Amman Thursday evening to take part in the joint trade talks.

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Back in the late 1920's and early 1930's the First Circle area in Jabal Amman would have been the outskirts of the then small, but rapidly growing, city of Amman. Many people seeking a quieter and less urban environment thus built their houses in this area and some of the city's lovely old villas are situated here.

One of these houses, surveyed by the architectural students at the University of Jordan for one of their second year projects and whose drawings form the basis of this Jordan Times series on the old houses in Amman, reveals more clearly just how rural the area was back in 1931 — the year that the Mallhas house was built.

Based on the simple traditional houses that were being built in the Jordanian countryside, the Mallhas house consists of a single storey constructed in "tubby" a roughly dressed stone whose more organic surface blends well with a rural environment. The smoother



The simple one-storey Mallhas house illustrates the traditional lines of the rural houses being built in the 1930's

Open air route system to benefit Alia, reduce fares

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan's request for applying the open air route policy for Arab air transport movement has been submitted to the Arab Social and Economic Council which will start its meetings on Aug. 17.

This move will have positive effects on the services of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, especially if this request is turned into a binding decision," said Alia Regional Manager in Tunis 'Jafan Al Tarawneh.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, in Tunis Mr. Tarawneh said that this request by Jordan came as an exact representation of what Alia has been, and still is, calling for. The application of this request will allow Alia to restructure its tariff system and to consolidate air fares in a way that would serve Arab tourism movement in a better way and will also reduce the current prices, he said.

Discussing the effects of this request on Alia services, Mr. Tarawneh said that an application of the open air route policy would save Alia the difficulties it is facing especially with regard to re-allowing it (Alia) to carry passengers between Tunis and Casablanca and vice-versa, a route which Alia has been denied since the beginning of last May.

Such a decision, he pointed out,

will also enable the representative of any airline company working in Tunisia to have a full supervision over the flights of his company which would consequently result in increasing the number of passengers travelling with the company he represents.

Mr. Tarawneh said that application of the open air route policy would reduce the cost of fare to Tunisia and would yield economic benefits as Tunisia is a tourist country. He affirmed that Alia's route in Tunisia and Casablanca does not yield economic benefits to Alia in particular as this route forms no more than one per cent of Alia's work.

The decision to operate this route (Amman to Tunisia and Casablanca) was a political decision and not a commercial decision which prompted the Arab League secretary general to request Alia to operate two flights weekly between Amman on the one hand and Tunisia and Casablanca on the other hand, Mr. Tarawneh explained.

He pointed out that Alia has granted the Tunisian airlines privileges in order to exchange flights between the two countries and said that Tunisian airlines have been given destinations after leaving Amman to which yield large economic returns, said Mr. Tarawneh.

Jordanian British society aims to develop bilateral relations

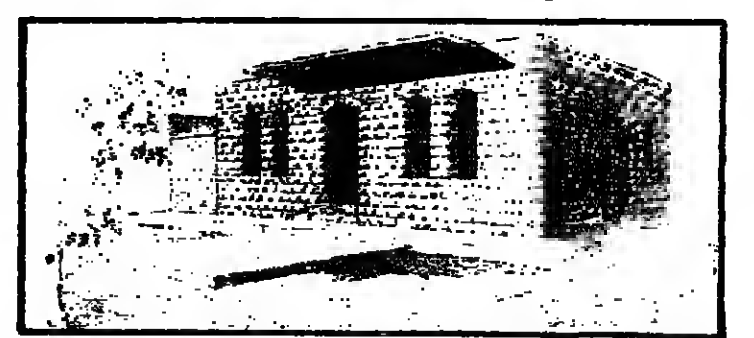
AMMAN (Petra) — Sixteen specialists and other interested people have submitted an application to set up a Jordanian-British society for the promotion of social and cultural relations between Jordan and England.

The society aims to develop bilateral, social and cultural cooperation through setting up tec-

hnical and vocational schools, developing agriculture and industry as well as exchanging visits and scholarships.

Familiarising the British people with the national and pan-Arab causes as well as providing aid to Jordanian students studying in England are also among the goals of this society.

Malhas house typifies traditional rural dwellings of the 1930s with its simplistic architectural style



The purely functional windows and "tubby" stone finish are also typical of rural houses at that time

slicker dressings, as typified by the old town houses of Salt, being more suited for an urban situation. The Mallhas house with its pleasingly symmetrical facade and segmentally arched openings was perhaps initially very small consisting, like many rural houses, of just three rooms.

Later, although perhaps not much later as the additions are well constructed in the same stone and with the same detailing, these were expanded to include an external bathroom and another room which was perhaps a kitchen, both of which were reached by crossing an open yard, and two more rooms at the rear.

Later still a third room at the back was made, its thin concrete walls are a glaring contrast to the thick walls of the original building. Although now deserted and

very run down, the Mallhas house is nevertheless an integral part of the development of the city reminding us of how people lived not so very long ago and how people's needs have radically changed in only 50 years.

Kitchens, once external, have now become the modern hub of the house and thus, over the years, the plans of the houses have gradually changed. As people started to spend more time in their homes so those homes have had to become increasingly bigger; the same family who lived in the Mallhas house in 1931 would probably need ten times the amount of space nowadays.

The Mallhas house was surveyed by Abia Idre: Ihsan Daoud, Khitam Khrest, Lama Al Ahd, Nabeel Al-Fayieh and Omar Juaybi.

Our notion of honour: Pride or prejudice?

Talking straight Marwan Muasher

(In what follows, I have partly relied on the findings of a study on the subject by Peter Todd)

One of the strongest forces organising, or more appropriately controlling, the family structure in Arab societies is that of honour. By the term I mean that notion within our culture pre-occupied with sexual purity and chastity. The

Arabic equivalent term is 'ird' ('ard in a Jordanian dialect). It differs from another used term, 'Sharaf', which can be acquired through good behaviour or high achievements. 'Ird on the other hand is something that each individual or family is inherently born with, until it is lost by the misconduct of a female member of the family. Once lost, it is extremely difficult to regain, and it has been common practice for the girl's male blood relatives to kill her in an effort to "wash the shame away".

'Ird plays a central role in our lives, city-dwellers and villagers alike. We do not have to go beyond the fact that capital punishment for people committing crimes associated with 'ird is not the statistical norm to prove that our society still partly condones such behaviour. In fact, it is still considered the family's duty to regain their 'ird by killing the girl, although no action is usually taken against the man, probably for fear of tribal feuds.

'Ird is a part of our daily dialogue in a manner not found in other languages. "Yill an 'ardak" (your honour is en-

sed) is commonly used as an extreme form of insult. When we want a favour from someone, we call upon his honour ("bi-'ardak"), as something sacred.

'Ird can be thought of as a collective possession belonging to all the family, rather than to an individual. A man in the Arab World has 'ird, but it is in large part a reflection of the 'ird of his family, and his lineage. The guardians of this 'ird are the male blood members of the family, primarily the father, brothers, father's brothers, and paternal cousins. Even the woman's husband is not usually considered as one of the guardians. For in Arab societies, blood bonds still prevail over marriage ones, which, incidentally, has a lot of implications on marriage relationships. But that is a subject for another article.

One important fact to note here is that a violation of 'ird assumes a far more serious dimension if people know about it. The social implication is clear here. 'Ird is as much a matter of reputation as it is of fact. In other words, in situations where no one knows of

the offense other than the girl's family, hush-up actions can be undertaken. It is when the violation is known to others that actions like killing the girl are deemed necessary. Killing is thus a response to established social norms rather than an internal conviction.

But the saddest part of this distorted notion of preserving one's dignity is this: It is more

takes precedence over national one.

How does a sexual complex affect our social structure? By legitimising the control of the family by its males as a necessary action to keep the family's name and reputation intact. By elevating the idea of 'ird to assume an almost sacred status, men can rest assured their authority will not be chal-

lenged by women without the latter being accused of being sacrilegious. Left women encounter situations where violations of 'ird can be made possible, restrictions of all kinds are placed on their activities, going all the way in some societies to veiling and total seclusion.

By limiting the action of women, society, by extension,

is also limiting the action of men. Because society guards against men being too friendly, or just natural, towards women, men have to be formal, modest in all their encounters with women. It is thus that this complex stands in the way of our growth as human beings, by creating artificial boundaries between men and women and in the process crippling society as a whole.

With the process of modernisation, one would expect the emphasis on honour to shift from its narrow sexual view to a much broader one. Thus, a person's 'ird might come to depend more on his/her career, ideologies and affiliations, rather than on the actions of a female member of his/her family. In other words, honour becomes more personal. Urbanisation is said to play an important role here. For with it, people assume some anonymity, being in a big city, and thus their actions run smaller risks of being known to other people. Moreover, city life warrants more contacts between members of the opposite sex. All these factors, one would think, would lead to a

weakening of the old 'ird concept. Unfortunately, there are many studies showing that the old notion of 'ird persists among city-dwellers of the Arab World. It appears that a typical Arab city is but a set of several social groups, each knowing each other closely and little about other groups of the same city. Thus, within each group, there is hardly any anonymity, and people are still weary of what others within their group think of them.

Revolutionary movements in the Arab World have tried, although not very successfully, to raise women's status in society, thereby de-emphasising this 'ird notion. Thus, there were several attempts in Egypt and Algeria, for example, to equate women with men. These met with varying degrees of success, although the existing family structures were too strong to be dismantled overnight by any state laws.

It looks like the real hope we have to shake this time-old notion is through education. Education is helpful in a multitude of ways in this regard. Education of women by itself im-

A woman is held responsible if she sins
A man is not
One bed joins them
The woman is condemned, the man protected

— Nizzar Qabbani

Old-time central may be voice of future

By Boris Weintraub

WASHINGTON — Once there was a time when Americans picked up their telephones, turned the crank, and shouted, "Hello, Central!"

Early telephone operators really were central to the life of their communities. They knew how to track down someone who had left the office to go to the store. They knew callers' voices and how to reach someone without bothering with numbers. They were used to dealing with the questions of where the fire was, what the weather was like, and how the mayor

was feeling. But then telephone service became more common, and infinitely more complex. As automation took hold to deal with the vastly increased number of telephone calls, the telephone operator became less central, and the service she gave became far less personal.

Change in the wind?

Now, in an age of automation and divestiture, the voice of the telephone operator may be heard more often in our land. That would please customers, who prefer a human voice to a synthesised

one; it would please operators, who say they want to use their own initiative and give better service; and it would please the telephone companies, which could reap additional revenue by providing additional services.

There is nothing definite about any of this. Spokesmen for local operating companies and for AT&T Communications, the long-distance arm of the stricken Bell System since the Jan. 1 breakup, say only that the changes are under consideration. But some experiments have been tried, and they have been promising.

One change would enable long-distance operators to go beyond simply making a connection, to suggesting another call when an initial call could not be completed, or promising another attempt later. Local companies are wondering whether their directory-assistance operators should make wake-up calls or calls to check in on the elderly.

Such services would go a long way towards assuaging complaints of unionised operators that they are limited to providing only rote responses to customers, and are forced by work practices to cut short the amount of time they can spend with customers.

Boys came first

The earliest telephone operators were young boys. When William J. Pellissier died in Malden, Mass., in 1959 at the age of 98, obituaries called him "reputedly the world's first telephone operator." He was walking down a Boston street at the age of 17 when he saw a "boy wanted" sign, walked into the Telephone Despatch Co., and was hired.

But young boys, who handled a variety of office chores in addition to making connections for owners of the earliest telephones, proved to be too rowdy, and sometimes too crude, for the job. Phone company officials soon turned to young women instead.

Historians still debate whether

the first female telephone operator was Emma Nutt of the New England Bell Telephone Co., or Margaret Kennedy of the New York Telephone Co.

Whoever was first, she was quickly followed by millions of sisters, daughters, and granddaughters. Telephone operating became almost exclusively a female occupation — even today, after more than a decade since the Bell System began hiring male operators, more than 91 per cent of the operator force is female — and Americans became used to hearing a female voice respond when they shouted, "Hello, Central?"

But the growth of telephone service began to overwhelm the operator and her cord switchboard. The writer of a 1941 book on the role of the telephone described how completing a call from Maine to California required the services of eight different operators.

Automated equipment, beginning with dial telephones, began to limit the need for operators, and the rise of computers in the last few decades has cut the need even more. A survey by the Communications Workers of America found that the number of operators dropped from 244,190 in 1950 to 128,214 in 1980, a 47-per cent decline.

Overall employment up

This decline came at a time when overall industry employment increased by 61 per cent, when the number of local calls quadrupled, when the number of toll calls went up 15 times.

Along with the decline in numbers has come a decrease in the amount of time spent with the customer. Agnes Kelly, a directory-assistance operator in Plainville, N.J., an operator since 1947, remembers spending three or four minutes with a customer when she had to rely on a collection of phone books.

Today, says a New Jersey Bell



Rows and rows of operators were necessary in the early decades of the telephone industry's history, when there was little the customer could do alone. These operators in the Washington traffic department of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. during the 1920s worked at

cord switchboards and spoke to customers using chest horns. It all took place under the watchful eyes and ears of patrolling supervisors, available to help out if needed. (National Geographic photo)

says.

Tennessee experiment

Still, the coming of competition in the industry has led to studies of new ways to utilise operators, especially since AT&T Communications' competitors have no operators. A Tennessee experiment gave operators the chance to spend more time with long-distance customers if an operator thought it necessary. Everyone was pleased, and the company picked up an additional \$2 million in revenue.

"Our over-arching goal is customer satisfaction," says Bob Beck, vice president for operator services at AT&T Com-

munications. "Efficiency is important, but at times we must go beyond that to see what a customer needs. We want to draw upon an operator more, and change the way we measure the job to induce call-completion. There's less reliance on methods and procedures. It may be essential to deviate from practice in order to complete a call."

This attitude is not universal, and many union officials take a wait-and-see attitude. But if operators are given a more important role, says James Irvine, CWA vice president for long-distance operators, "We would be with them 100 per cent. That would be great." — National Geographic feature.

22% of Austrian women workers do part-time

THE issue of part-time employment has acquired renewed topicality in Austria with the emergence of more serious problems in this country's labour market. As much as 22 per cent of all female wage-earners work fewer than 40 hours a week — that is, they are part-time employees. Of the total number of women in part-time employment, 27 per cent have flexible working hours and over four per cent work only on a casual basis.

This spring the Institute for Empirical Sociological Research (IFES) was commissioned by the Women's Affairs Department of the Federal Chancellery to conduct a survey. The most significant results of the questionnaire, answered by just under 4,000 people, have now been published in the report "Female Wage-earners in Part-time Employment in Austria."

Household circumstances are a decisive factor in the choice of part-time employment. The wish to work shorter hours is particularly prevalent in the category of full-time female employees between the ages of 25 and 40. This applies above all to those

women whose age involves them in the greatest amount of domestic duties (housekeeping, bringing up children). The wish to switch to part-time employment is also linked with income, but the connection is not that which would appear at first sight logical. The women who tend to opt for shorter working hours are not those who earn a relatively high wage and might be assumed to be less affected by a drop in income but rather those who earn less. On closer scrutiny this link becomes clearer. The less an employee earns in a given job, the less he or she will regard effort and care as worthwhile, and the easier it is to forego the little that the job brings in.

What prompted the IFES study was the fact that part-time employment is largely confined to women's jobs. Moreover, increasing evidence has accumulated in recent years that women are being more or less coerced into part-time employment and are being forced to accept working hours that are dictated by production requirements — News from Austria.

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Brisco-Hooks wins Olympic double gold

LOS ANGELES (R) — Valerie Brisco-Hooks of the United States became the first woman to win the Olympic 200 and 400 metres when she set a games record in the 200 metres final Thursday.

Brisco-Hooks turned on a blistering surge in the straight to overhaul teammate Florence Griffith and scorch across the finish line in 21.81 seconds. The previous record of 22.03 was set by East Germany's Barbel Wöckel in Moscow four years ago.

Griffith took the silver medal in 22.04. Jamaica's Commonwealth champion Merlene Ottey won the bronze in 22.09.

The two Americans jumped for joy after the race, grabbing the U.S. flag and making a victory lap.

Brisco-Hooks, 24, who had not broken 23 seconds for the 200 before this year, threw her track shoes into the crowd in jubilation as she jogged arm-in-arm with Griffith.

The quality of the race inevitably suffered through the absence of East German world record holder and world champion Marlies Koch and her compatriot Marita Koch. But Brisco-Hooks made it clear she had emerged as a world class sprinter.

Earlier Britain's classy 1500 metres trio of Sebastian Coe, Steve Cram and Steve Ovett qualified for the semifinals. They shrugged off disappointments, injuries and illnesses to pick up two first places and a second in the men's first round heats.

Coe, the Olympic champion, showed that although he may not have enough finishing speed for the 800 metres these days he remains a real threat in the longer distance.

The 27-year-old Briton remained in full control, easing into second place with 3 minutes 45.30 seconds behind Francis Pascal Thiébaud.

Cram, the Commonwealth, European and world champion, showed no sign of the ankle injury that had hampered his training when he won his heat in 3:40.33.

Ovett, who lost his 800 metres title on Monday when he limped across the line in the last place, had seemed unlikely to compete again at these games.

Brazil's Joaquim Cruz, who won the 800 metres, bristled with power and aggression in winning

his heat in 3:41.01.

Switzerland's Pierre Deleze had his dreams of appearing in an Olympic final shattered. He crashed to the track only metres from the line while lying comfortably in third place.

Deleze, who finished sixth in last year's World Championships, lay helpless as Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan raced thankfully past him to take the coveted third place.

"Ovett braked and then I kicked into him," Deleze said. "That's how it happens. I had no chance to get up."

In the women's 1500 metres semifinals, two Romanians showed they had good chances of recording unique Olympic doubles.

New Zealander reaches boxing final

LOS ANGELES (R) — Lightweight Kevin Barry of New Zealand reached the final of the Olympic boxing tournament Thursday night after his U.S. opponent floored him with an illegal punch.

Favourite Evander Holyfield was disqualified for throwing the knockout punch in the second round while the referee was warning Barry for hitting the American with a blow to the back of the neck.

The packed Los Angeles Memorial Sports arena exploded in uproar when Barry wobbled to his feet on the count of five and staggered around the ring. He was waved to his corner by the referee who seemed to be signalling he had lost.

But the referee then told Holyfield's corner and the five judges that the American had been disqualified for fighting before being told to resume boxing.

The disqualification prompted a chorus of boos that lasted for over ten minutes. But Holyfield did not appear to have protested the referee's decision.

Holyfield, the gold medal favourite, became only the second American to lose in the tournament. His disqualification came after eight other Americans Thursday reached Saturday's finals.



SCORELESS DRAW: Al Jazira Jordanian club and Al Zamalik club of Egypt drew 0-0 in a friendly soccer match at Amman Stadium Thursday. Attending the match were Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Information Minister Laila Sharaf, Amman Mayor and Jordanian Soccer Federation President Abdul Raouf Al-Rawabdeh. Head of the Egyptian interest section to Amman Yehya Wahbi and a large number of soccer fans. Al Zamalik team to play Faisali (Jordanian) club Saturday to mark the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne.

Morocco wins 1st Olympics gold

LOS ANGELES (R) — Morocco's Nawal El Moutawakel won her country's first Olympic gold medal Wednesday when she raced to an upset win in the women's 400 metres hurdles.

El Moutawakel could hardly believe it when she sped across the finish line first in 54.61 seconds.

She held her head in her hands then grabbed a Moroccan flag and jogged a victory lap waving to a cheering crowd.

American Judi Brown was second in 55.20 and Romania's Cristina Ciocarar finished third in 55.41.

El Moutawakel thoroughly deserved her win but the event was one of the most heavily-hit by the Soviet-bloc boycott. East European women took five of the first six places at last year's inaugural world championships.



Nawal El Moutawakel of Morocco finishes 400 metres hurdles at the Los Angeles Olympics meet Wednesday (AP wirephoto)

Olympics medals standing

LOS ANGELES (API) — Medals totals through Thursday's medal events at the 1984 Summer Olympics with country, gold, silver, bronze and total medals won:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
United States	59	50	21	130
West Germany	11	14	17	42
Romania	17	13	10	40
China	14	7	7	28
Great Britain	4	6	18	28
Canada	7	10	9	26
Japan	7	7	11	25
Australia	4	8	11	23
Italy	11	3	7	21
France	4	3	11	18
Finland	4	3	4	11
Sweden	0	5	6	11
South Korea	3	4	3	10
Netherlands	3	2	1	6
New Zealand	4	0	2	6
Brazil	1	3	2	6
Yugoslavia	2	1	2	5
Switzerland	0	3	2	5
Mexico	1	2	1	4
Belgium	1	1	2	4
Austria	1	1	1	3
Norway	0	1	2	3
Denmark	0	1	2	3
Spain	1	1	0	2
Greece	0	1	1	2
Jamaica	0	0	2	2
Morocco	1	0	0	1
Colombia	0	1	1	2
Ivory Coast	0	1	0	1
Peru	0	1	0	1
Iceland	0	0	1	1
Portugal	0	0	1	1
Taiwan	0	0	1	1
Venezuela	0	0	1	1

W. Indies sends England reeling

LONDON (R) — Malcolm Marshall grabbed two wickets in an over to lead a fight-back by West Indies' last bowlers against England in the fifth and final cricket test at the Oval here Friday.

Marshall fired out Ian Botham and Allan Lamb in quick succession as England crumbled to 84 for six, and they slumped further to 133 for eight at tea on the second day in reply to West Indies' first innings of 190.

Marshall, who also dismissed nightwatchman Pat Pocock in the first session, and fellow fast bowlers Joel Garner and Michael Holding undermined England by generating pace and bounce on the quickest pitch of the series.

Captain David Gower, Chris Tavare and Botham all fell to steeply-rising deliveries and were caught off the glove, with Holding accounting for the first two.

Eldine Baptiste dispatched Graeme Fowler, who resumed his innings in the second session after retiring hurt with a bruised arm before lunch, and was top scorer with 31.

Garner continued the decline by sending back Paul Downton after another display of staunch batting against relentless pace which has been one of the few bright spots for England in the series in which they trail 4-0.

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Jaffar

Gandhi under pressure to intervene in Sri Lanka

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is facing growing pressure from leaders of India's southern Tamil community to intervene in neighbouring Sri Lanka where the army has launched a major drive against Tamil separatists.

The army push began a week ago after 32 people died in a bomb blast at India's Madras Airport which Sri Lankan authorities said was aimed at a Sri Lankan airliner.

The minority Tamils have close religious and cultural links with 50 million Tamils living mainly in India's southern Tamil Nadu state.

Authoritative sources said Mrs. Gandhi had written to Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene about the island's ethnic crisis.

The sources said she had urged Mr. Jayewardene in her letter to exercise restraint in dealing with the situation.

Politicians from Tamil Nadu charged on Wednesday that the government in Colombo was carrying out genocide against Sri Lanka's Tamils.

Mrs. Gandhi tried to cool tempers by saying India had to act cautiously. "Whatever action we take must help the Tamils and not precipitate their annihilation," she told parliament.

However S.D. Somasundaram, Tamil Nadu's food minister, said Sri Lanka's ethnic problem was

not a domestic affair in which India could not intervene.

He was quoted by the Press Trust of India (PTI) as saying Thursday that the United Nations had passed a resolution in 1948 saying ethnic violence in a country was not its internal affair.

PTI said 17 Tamils wounded in the Sri Lankan drive were in hospital in Tamil Nadu's capital Madras after escaping on fishing boats from the island on Tuesday.

Indian press reports, strongly denied by Colombo, have said more than 100 people, mainly civilians, have been killed during the army sweep. Sri Lankan authorities said only 26 guerrillas have died and 11 have been injured.

India denies Sri Lankan charges that Tamil separatists operate from camps in Tamil Nadu.

The Sri Lankan crisis has erupted at a time when Mrs. Gandhi is facing continuing unrest in the sensitive north Indian states of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

In Colombo, Sri Lanka's national security minister said Friday security forces were preparing for

more separatist guerrilla attacks in the island's troubled northern district of Jaffna.

The minister, Lalith Athulathudali, said: "The long awaited terrorist offensive began last weekend. It is expected to continue with attacks on banks, police stations and military personnel with guns and bombs."

"The security forces have taken certain steps, which I cannot disclose, to counter the offensive."

Police said guerrillas attacked a police station at Chunnakam in the northern district this morning while Mr. Athulathudali was addressing a press conference in Colombo.

Mr. Athulathudali said security forces had combed Vavuni and Point Pedro, two villages in the northern district said to be hideouts of minority Tamil guerrillas who are demanding a separate state. More than 300 suspected guerrillas were arrested in Vavuni, he said.

Mr. Athulathudali said the military had searched Point Pedro, a village at the northernmost tip of Sri Lanka, 48 hours ago and arrested 110 suspected guerrillas.

He denied that the security forces had launched "a major counter-offensive" but admitted that this week's operations against the guerrillas were the biggest so far.

Moscow questions future of arms talks

MOSCOW (R) — U.S.-Soviet relations have deteriorated to such an extent that Moscow is questioning whether any form of arms dialogue is possible with Washington, according to a senior Kremlin official.

Leonid Zamyatin, head of the Kremlin's International Information Department, said in the latest edition of Moscow News, a publication aimed primarily at foreign opinion, that the Reagan administration had severely damaged relations with Moscow.

"The present U.S. administration has during the past few years done enormous damage to the system of bilateral Soviet-U.S. agreements built earlier and actually reduced to nought everything which constituted the foundation of cooperation between the USSR and USA in different fields," he said.

Mr. Zamyatin said relations had deteriorated to such an extent that it was now natural for Moscow to ask whether any form of negotiations on arms was possible.

"Since President Reagan became installed in the White House, his entourage and he himself have taken little care to ensure the normal development of Soviet-U.S. relations," he said.

Mr. Zamyatin cited the failure of Moscow and Washington to agree on an agenda for proposed space weapons talks in Vienna in September as a fresh example of deteriorating relations.

Moscow and Washington have waged a war of words over the proposed talks and many Western diplomats here now believe they are unlikely to take place, despite the insistence of both sides that they are ready to talk without preconditions.

Nicaragua promises free elections

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's interior minister said his ministry was committed to guaranteeing maximum freedom for parties with registered candidates to campaign in general elections next November.

"It is legal and also fair that those parties have the maximum liberties to develop their campaign and participate with all their civil rights in the electoral process," Tomas Borge Martinez told reporters Thursday night.

Seven parties have registered candidates to run in the elections. The National Council for Political Parties Thursday extended the registration deadline by seven days to Aug. 16 in an apparent concession to the main opposition grouping, the Democratic Coordinator.

The Democratic Coordinator said Thursday it would not register until the government agreed to hold talks with U.S.-backed insurgents and lifted some restrictions imposed as part of a two-year-old state of emergency.

"When we decided not to register, we did so knowing the legal

and political risks and we are saying that we would rather live morally even if this means our death legally," its communiqué said.

The Sandinists have refused to talk to the rebels, saying they were traitors and the demand was unacceptable.

Earlier Nicaraguan Junta Leader Daniel Ortega said Thursday that right-wing insurgents had launched a new offensive with the backing of the United States.

"There is a new offensive, unleashed with support from the CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency) that has already cost the lives of various officers of our army and is causing great destruction as well as panic among our rural population," Mr. Ortega told reporters.

His statement coincided with a formal Nicaraguan note of protest to neighbouring Honduras over an insurgent attack near the port of Potosi, on the Gulf of Fonseca, Wednesday.

The note, published in Thursday's newspapers, said two speedboats operating from a base in the Honduran port of San Lorenzo

had fired machine guns on the hamlet of El Maronal, wounding a soldier.

"The government of Nicaragua once again urges the Honduran authorities to make an immediate and definite end to the support they are giving to bands of mercenaries in the service of the United States government..." the protest said.

The United States has been arming and financing thousands of right-wing insurgents operating from bases in Honduras in the north and along the border with Costa Rica in the south.

Mr. Ortega said the new rebel offensive was accompanied by the deployment of the U.S. aircraft carrier Kennedy and the battleship Iowa off the Nicaraguan coast.

The biggest of the right-wing insurgent groups, the Honduras-based Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), said last week its ranks had swollen from 10,000 to 12,000 during the past few weeks and thousands of newly-trained recruits were due to enter the fight soon.

'China supports developing nations'

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said Thursday Peking supported demands by developing nations for lower interest rates and better conditions for the repayment of their huge foreign debts.

In a speech on the second day of a four-day visit to Argentina, Mr. Wu said the enormous economic difficulties faced by developing nations were one of three serious threats to world peace.

The others were the practice of hegemonism on the Third World by unspecified nations and "the frantic arms race of the superpowers."

"We firmly back developing nations in their reasonable demands that industrialised nations reduce high interest rates, im-

prove conditions for payment of their debts and reduce restrictions for entry to their markets," Mr. Wu said.

China would work with other developing nations to improve southern hemisphere coordination to further North-South dialogue and establish a new world economic order.

Mr. Wu, the highest-ranking Chinese official to visit Argentina since the two countries established relations 12 years ago, has already visited Mexico and Venezuela and is due to fly to Brazil on Saturday.

He met President Raul Alfonsín, who took power in December and has since promoted regional cooperation to seek improved conditions for the rep-

ayment of Latin America's \$350-billion foreign debt.

The Chinese minister signed a cultural accord with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo Thursday, before outlining Chinese foreign policy in a speech to the private Argentine Council for International Relations.

"In no way do we want the fruits of construction achieved by way of hard work destroyed in war," Mr. Wu said. "It is for that reason that we take the defence of world peace as the principal objective of our foreign policy."

He said China regretted the breakdown of Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear missiles and he called for a reduction of tensions between Washington and Moscow.

India confirms death of Sikh preacher

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Thursday took the unusual step of quashing rumours that militant Sikh preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale survived an army action against Sikh extremists.

Mrs. Gandhi told a parliamentarian, who said state television in neighbouring Pakistan

was showing pictures of Bhindranwale to imply he was still alive, that the preacher's body had been identified. He was killed when the army stormed the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, on June 6.

Mr. Bhindranwale became a folk hero for some Sikhs after the army crackdown. Rumours cir-

culate in scattered Punjab villages that he is not dead. Minister of State for External Affairs R.N. Mirdha said coverage of events in Punjab by Pakistan television was distorted, misleading and provocative. He said India had strongly protested to the Pakistani government about such unfriendly gestures.

Chilean youth dies during anti-government protests

ANTIAGO (R) — A 19-year-old youth died Thursday night from a wound in the head at the end of a day of action called to mark more than 100 deaths in a year of anti-government protests, local television reported.

It gave no details if the victim was fatally injured but said isolated incidents had occurred in poor areas of Santiago and two small bombs had gone off.

The main event of Thursday's day of action, inspired by the concern of Chile's Roman Catholic bishops over deaths in protests against the rule of President Augusto Pinochet, was a rally outside Santiago's cathedral, attended by 10,000 people.

Although police allowed the crowds to gather and place flowers and lighted candles on the cathedral steps, they used teargas grenades and water cannon to dis-

perse singing and chanting demonstrators when the rally ended.

Police sources said 30 people were arrested and 10 injured. Church sources said Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno had pressed the government to give tacit approval to the rally in front of the cathedral after a group of public figures launched the campaign, "Chile, in defence of life."

Although the organisers insisted on the non-partisan nature of the rally and the other demonstrators, opposition political parties and human rights organisations had lent their full support.

Banners and slogans paraded in front of the cathedral called for an end to killing, torture, human rights abuses, unemployment and hunger and for a return to democracy.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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TWO CAN BE BETTER THAN ONE

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♦ KQ52
♥ 74
♦ AKJ8
♦ AKJ
WEST
♦ A6
♦ J3
♥ AKQ9532 ♦ 108
♦ Q5 ♦ 97432
♦ 106 ♦ 8754

SOUTH
♦ 109874
♥ J6
♦ 106
♦ Q932

The bidding:
West North East South
1 ♥ Dble Pass 1 ♦
4 ♥ 4 ♦ Pass Pass
Pass
Opening lead: King of ♠.

Here's a hand from the 'defensive play' section of our home computer program, "Charles Goren: Learning Bridge Made Easy." It is now available for IBM, Apple II and Commodore 64 computers. See how you would fare against the computer.

The auction is straightforward. With eight playing tricks in his own hand, West tries his best to make life difficult for his opponents, by jumping to four hearts at his second turn. However, North is too strong to be shut out of the auction, and his bid of four spades buys the hand.

West leads the king of ♠.

hearts, and when dummy comes down he can see almost every high card in the pack. Obviously, he cannot expect a high-card trick from his partner. When East echoes in hearts by following first with the ten, West can count on two heart tricks and the ace of trumps. The most likely place for a setting trick is in trumps, and this can be accomplished if, among his collection of useless tickets, East has the jack of spades.

West continues with the queen of hearts and, despite all that he has been told about the evils of giving declarer a ruff-and-suff, he plays a third round of the suit. Declarer must ruff high in dummy. His best plan is to come to hand with the queen of clubs to lead the ten of trumps toward the thirteenth.

Now West must continue with his excellent defense by rising with the ace of spades and leading a fourth heart, which gives declarer a second ruff-and-suff. This one, however, declarer will not enjoy.

Declarer cannot afford to ruff high, for that concede the setting trick to the jack of trumps. His only chance is to discard and hope that West holds the jack of trumps. Unfortunately, East has that card, and he ruffs with it to inflict a one-trick defeat.

American arrested during Irish riots

BELFAST (R) — Sixty people, including a member of a visiting American delegation, were arrested during a night of rioting in Northern Ireland that marked Thursday's 13th anniversary of internment without trial, police said.

Internment for suspected Republican and Loyalist guerrillas was introduced in 1971 during serious rioting in the British province. It was suspended in December, 1975, when the last Republicans held under its provisions were released from jail.

The detained American, Bre-

ndan Judge, a 22-year-old student from Gary, Indiana, was part of a 130-strong delegation touring Northern Ireland organised by Noraid, which raises funds in the United States for Irish Republican causes.

Police said he was charged during the night with possession of a petrol bomb in Northern Ireland's second largest city, Londonderry. It was the second successive year that a member of a Noraid delegation has been arrested on the internment anniversary which sparks off rioting every year. Last year an American was charged

with riotous conduct in Belfast and expelled from the province.

Further disturbances are expected over the next few days to mark the introduction in 1969 of British troops at the start of the unrest in Northern Ireland, and the traditional Protestant Apprentice Boys' parade in Londonderry, a mainly Catholic city.

The worst rioting during the night was in Belfast, where several hundred petrol bombs were thrown at police who responded by firing over 200 rounds of plastic bullets.

Habre tightens grip on southern Chad

N'DJAMENA (R) — A year after French troops came to Chad to check a Libyan-backed rebel offensive in the north, President Hissene Habre is taking advantage of a full in the war to tighten his grip on the south, diplomatic analysts say.

The former French colony is split into a rebel-held north and a government-controlled south following last year's rebel drive.

Mr. Habre, confident France will not pull its 3,000 troops out of Chad while the rebels and their Libyan allies remain in the north, is using the current military stalemate to restore administrative and economic machinery in the south, which has traditionally been hostile to the northern-born president.

In setting up the National

Union for Independence and Revolution Party, which is more representative than the now-dissolved northern-dominated Chad National Liberation Front, the analysts said Mr. Habre would raise his standing in the south and reinforce his claim to be the leader of all Chad.

Reconciliation talks aimed at ending the 18-year-old civil war are due to be held in Brazzaville, Congo, but are unlikely to take place as long as Mr. Habre insists he is the country's national leader and not the head of one of its warring factions, the analysts said.

In Paris, French officials say they want a negotiated settlement but will keep troops in Chad until Libyan units leave. Tripoli denies having troops in Chad.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu said the military operation was aimed at preventing the rebels capturing the capital, ending the fighting and creating conditions for a peaceful settlement.

So far France has lost 11 servicemen in the Chad operation, according to official French accounts.

Mr. Hernu tried to allay fears of French troops becoming trapped in a Vietnam-style conflict when he said: "It must be known that the French army is not hogged down. We are containing an army of invaders."

But the last French newspaper opinion poll on the issue, published in April, said 58 per cent of those questioned wanted French troops out of Chad while only 21 per cent felt they should remain.

Aeroflot seeks end to ban on U.S. flights

MOSCOW (R) — A senior Aeroflot official Thursday appealed to Washington to lift a ban on flights to the United States by the Soviet state airline.

Nikolai Polyanchik, head of Aeroflot's International Traffic Division, told a press conference in Moscow that the four-year-old ban, imposed in retaliation against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, was unfair and discriminatory.

"It is now up to Mr. Reagan to make a decision. We are ready to resume flights at once," he added. Aeroflot ran a regular service from Moscow to New York before the ban was imposed by former President Jimmy Carter.

Mr. Polyanchik, speaking at a press conference to mark the 25th anniversary of Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport, said it was causing much inconvenience to more than 35,000 U.S. tourists who visited the Soviet Union every year.

In remarks on Aeroflot's worldwide operations, he rejected charges by Western airlines that the Soviet carrier undercuts their markets by charging "dumping prices" for its tickets.

Mr. Polyanchik said all airlines were involved in a price war and Aeroflot's activities were "no

more scandalous" than any other company's.

Soviet Union's Tupolev-144 supersonic airliner, one of the most expensive failures in aviation history, has been grounded for good, Mr. Polyanchik said.

He said the airline had decided after tests and a few months service that the TU-144's running costs were too high to justify its use.

"We are not going to use it. We are simply not prepared to use an aircraft which has proved to be inefficient," he said.

The TU-144, known in the West as the "Concordski" because of its close similarity with the Anglo-French Concorde, was dogged with problems throughout its brief history.

A prototype of the plane crashed at the Paris airshow in 1973 and informed Soviet sources say a second TU-144 went down near Moscow in early 1978.

The plane was used for passenger service for only six months after it started a once-a-week run from Moscow to Alma Ata in Soviet Central Asia in November 1977. The following June it was quietly withdrawn.

The Soviet sources said it was the second TU-144 crash which prompted the decision to pull the plane out of service rather than its high running cost.

No figures have ever been given for the rescue and development costs for the airliner, but Western airline officials in Moscow said they undoubtedly ran into several billion dollars.

"In terms of investment and return the TU-144 may well rank as the biggest single failure in the whole history of aviation," one said.

The officials said that the plane appeared to have serious design faults which were never overcome despite tests on several modified prototypes.

During its brief time in service, it was flying a route of only 3,240 kilometres and never achieved the kind of supersonic speeds notched up daily by Concorde flights across the Atlantic.

According to reports from passengers who used the service, the plane never flew more than half full despite a heavy demand for tickets. The Western officials said this indicated unresolved problems with load distribution.

Polish dissident says his views are not changed

WARSAW (R) — Polish dissident Jacek Kuron has been freed under a government amnesty but he says he has not changed the political views for which he was jailed.

Mr. Kuron, 50, was driven home by police Thursday from Warsaw's Rakowiecka Prison. Speaking with Western reporters later, he said he felt in excellent health but had lost some weight during his imprisonment of two years and eight months.

Asked about his political views, Mr. Kuron said: "It would be irresponsible for someone to leave prison after three years and try to give political assessments straightaway. But I also did not change my views in those three years."

"Leaving prison is a shock. I have left tens of times and each time I have experienced this. Talking in a state of shock is not good."

Mr. Kuron is the third leader of the disbanded dissident group KOR (Worker's Defence Committee) freed by the amnesty. Adam Michnik was freed from Rakowiecka on Saturday and Zbigniew Romaszewski on Tuesday. Henryk Wajec is still in the prison.

Like his colleagues, Mr. Kuron was a senior adviser to the independent labour movement Solidarity before it was suppressed

and he was interned under martial law in December 1981.

The trial of the four KOR leaders on charges of plotting to topple Communist rule was abandoned last month because of the amnesty. Mr. Kuron, who steadfastly maintained his innocence while in prison, said he was disappointed the trial was dropped.

Mr. Kuron gave no details of his immediate plans. "I am not going to answer... this is what I always say during police questioning, incidentally," he said.

Mr. Michnik and Mr. Romaszewski have also been careful not to spell out their plans, although Mr. Romaszewski said he was sure he and other freed opposition activists would continue to work for trade union and political pluralism.

Mr. Kuron, who served prison terms in the 1960s, helped to found KOR in 1976. In the summer of 1980, the movement played an important role in distributing information on the strikes in Poland which forced the government to permit free unions.

The KOR leaders have recently come under strong attack from the state-controlled media, while Polish officials have warned them and other released prisoners that the amnesty will be revoked if they repeat their former offences.

Burton laid to rest

CELIGNY, Switzerland (R) — Actor Richard Burton was buried Thursday in this Swiss lakeside village after a simple ceremony including hymns and poems from his native Wales.

Only close relatives and friends attended the service in a tiny 14th Century Protestant Church at Celigny, where Burton had his second home for more than 25 years.

There were no leading screen or stage personalities at the funeral of the co-star of a son who became a star. He died aged 58 in a Geneva hospital last Sunday after a brain haemorrhage.

Loudspeakers relayed the service to about 300 villagers and reporters in a nearby square and a television camera set up under a plane tree recorded the scene for satellite transmission to the United States.

At the graveside, the actor's 36-year-old widow, Sally, laid a single red carnation on the oak coffin.

Burton's godson, Brook Williams, recited poetry by Welsh writer Dylan Thomas and laid a book of the poet's collected works on the casket, covered by red and white flowers in the shape of a dragon, the Welsh national emblem.

At the church service, two brothers of the actor and three sisters who had travelled from their native village of Porthcelyn sang

Welsh hymns.

His actress daughter, Kate, 26, read the Dylan Thomas poem beginning: "Do not go gently into that good night." His brother, Graham Jenkins, read in Welsh a chapter of the first book of Corinthians. He said Burton had known it by heart, having learned it from their oldest sister, Cecilia, who brought up the family after their mother died.

"It is all about love, and Richard gave us plenty of love," Graham said.

Security men and police shepherded the family mourners, including two adopted daughters, Lisa and Maria, into the church past reporters and photographers. At the cemetery, shaded by ash trees at the end of a grassy lane, photographers lined a wall to capture the graveside scene.

A 74-year-old retired Swiss pastor, Arnold Mobbs, who had known Burton since he first came to Celigny in 1955 and baptised both his daughters, conducted the church service in English and French.

Rev. Mobbs said Burton had loved Celigny and wanted to be buried there without pomp. The actor once told him: "When I pack for a journey, the first things I put in my luggage are my Shakespeare and my New Testament."



Israel introduces 5,000 shekel notes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Bank of Israel, trying to keep up with Israel's 400 per cent inflation, has introduced a 5,000 shekel note, the highest yet. A bank official said that the note, worth about \$17, was necessary because the 1,000 shekel note had dropped to less than a third of its original value of \$11 since its release nine months ago. The new note bears a portrait of former Prime Minister Levi Eshkol. The Bank of Israel is working on a 10,000 shekel note for the end of this year and a 50,000 shekel note to be released in the middle of next year.

7 shot in riot over family feud

LAWRENCE, Massachusetts (R) — A feud between two families erupted into a four-hour street riot in which seven people were shot, six others were stabbed or stoned and a building was fire-bombed, police said Thursday. Seven people were arrested in the violence Wednesday night involving 200 people. The families "just don't like each other," a police spokesman said. The incident apparently started with an argument over a broken car window. Neighbours took sides and eventually the dispute developed into a riot.

Rich become richer under Thatcher

LONDON (R) — Britain's rich are getting richer under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government and the poor are relatively worse off, according to government figures released Thursday. A study by the government's Central Statistical Office showed the top fifth of wage-earners increased their pre-tax earnings by 2.4 per cent points to 45 per cent of national earnings in 1981-82. The central statistical office said the changes in income distribution did not have a bearing on average living standards. It said real disposable income rose by four per cent between 1978 and 1981. The figures released Thursday in the latest issue of the office's Economic Trends journal cover 1979-82, the first years of Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative premiership.

Turkey slips up on welcome sign

ANKARA (R) — A sign saying "welcome honoured guest" at Ankara Airport was ripped down minutes before the arrival Wednesday of Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahayan of the United Arab Emirates after a Foreign Ministry official spotted it was written in Urdu rather than Arabic.

Poles appeal for underwear rationing

WARSAW (R) — A Polish newspaper reader has called for state rationing of underwear, saying supplies are so scarce that Poles have to patch their underpants twice over. A Warsaw engineer, named only as T.W., wrote in a letter published in Thursday's official daily Zycie Warszawy: "This shortage results in having to wear underpants covered with patches which themselves are covered with patches. Maybe we should introduce rationing coupons, granted once a year, for this kind of underwear. It would be better than... having too much ventilation," he wrote. Other clothes in short supply in Warsaw this year have included bras, rights, socks, shirts, T-shirts and good quality shoes and suits.